

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development

Community Connect Awards – Arizona

2007 Grant Awards:

Smith Bagley, Inc. DBA CellularOne

Red Mesa, Arizona

Grant Amount: \$195,279

Contact: Brian Gilbert, (928) 537-0690

County: Apache

Rural Development funds will be used to build a wireless network in Red Mesa, Arizona. The ten computers will be located in the Red Mesa Chapter House, which currently houses public meetings, the Head Start office, senior center, Division of Social Services, and community service programs. This unique public building provides residents easy access to high-speed Internet access. Online educational opportunities, public safety notices, and telemedicine opportunities will all be made available through this grant.

2005 Grant Awards:

Hopi Telecommunications, Inc.

Moenkopi, AZ

Grant Amount: \$750,000

Contact: Brent Kennedy, 928-522-8428

County: Coconino

This project will bring broadband services to the community of Moenkopi, Arizona, which is located remotely from the core portion of the Hopi Reservation. The community of 901 residents is challenged by high unemployment and low household income. This project will operate a point-to-multipoint unlicensed wireless broadband network connecting residents, schools, law enforcement, fire department and the community center. The grant will create distance learning opportunities, such as advanced placement courses for students. Residents will have better access to news and information. Artists, craftsmen, community businesses, government agencies, and schools will be better positioned to participate in the digital economy on a local, regional and worldwide basis.



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2004 Grant Awards:

Havasupai Tribal Council

Supai, Arizona

Grant Amount: \$1,247,705

Contact: Linda Mahone, 928-448-2731

County: Coconino

The project will provide wireless broadband internet service to the community of Supai, Havasupai Reservation, Arizona. The remote location in the southwest corner of Grand Canyon National Park makes it necessary to transport heavy equipment into the community by helicopter, since the only other way to reach Supai is by foot or on horses. The project will connect all community critical facilities, businesses, the elementary school, and homes on the reservation which has a population of 503. Public safety and health organizations will have improved communications, which can be life-saving in emergency situations. The community center will be accessible to residents for information research, education, marketing and promotion, and personal or business communications using high-speed internet. All center workstations will have GED and other self-paced interactive learning software installed and the center will also provide basic computer and internet skill training to end-users. The project will create a tribal website and digital community bulletin board to enhance communication within the tribal organization and with community members.

2003 Grant Awards:

San Carlos Telecommunications Utility, Inc.

San Carlos Reservation, Arizona

Grant Amount: \$164,280

Contact: Vernon James, 928-475-7051

County: Gila

The San Carlos Indian Reservation agencies serving San Carlos Apache members do not have broadband service at any location. Even the Bureau of Indian Affairs does not have email or dial up Internet service. The Reservation is a major factor in fighting forest fires in the northeastern region of Arizona. Asynchronous Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL) equipment will be added to telecom sites to cover the town area of San Carlos. The San Carlos Education Department, San Carlos Forest Resources Program, San Carlos Police Department, and the San Carlos Adult/Juvenile Detention Center are critical facilities that will participate in the project.



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2002 Grant Awards:

Kaibab Paiute Tribe Pipe Springs, Arizona Grant Amount: \$408,146

Contact Person: Roger Holland, 928-643-7245

County: Mohave

The applicant plans to use Rural Development Grant funds for inter-connecting the Tribe, via Virtual Community Software, using a fixed wireless broadband network. This network will serve as a communications tool which will provide for the collaboration of private, tribal, state, and national programs, maintain on going participation between Tribal Councils and the Government, inter-connect Tribes to the community within and the multi-faceted world outside of the reservation. Improvement in quality of life, enhanced educational opportunities, health care facilities, emergency services and homeland security will be a product of this broadband network.

TeleSpectra, LLC

Wellton, AZ

Grant Amount: \$1,203,296

Contact Person: Mr. Richard Volk, (602) 648-5845

County: Yuma

The grant will allow the provision of broadband service to the Town of Wellton, which has experienced an unemployment rate in excess of 20 percent during the 1990s. A community center will be located in the Wellton Branch Library which will provide 18 standard computer access points with standard software and Internet access. This center will enable Internet access to information that would enhance learning by K-12 students and provide networking and Web-based activities or enterprises to businesses. Other critical community facilities that will gain broadband access include Wellton Elementary, Wellton Police Department, East County Health Care, Sheriff's Department Substation, and Antelope High School. The project will utilize microwave transport back to Phoenix and Yuma where connection to several different Internet providers is possible.